JOINT BASKETBALL COMMITTEE

The Basketball Rules for 1931 - 1932.

The following is a summary of the Joint Basketball Rules Committee's decisions concerning the basketball rules at the annual meeting, April 10-11, 1931. This information is for the benefit of those desiring the substance of the changes prior to the publication of the Guide. No attempt is made here to give the exact wording of the new rules.

The Question and Answers which hereto have appeared as an appendix are to be revised and placed in the Rules, each appearing as an approved ruling under the section to which it applies.

The two-minute time-out periods are to be reduced to one minute. This will shorten the delays which are a source of criticism, and which some feel are not conducive to the best welfare of the players. Even with this change the rules make ample provision for injured or exhausted players.

Under Rule 5, Section 6, a "suggestion" will be inserted to the effect that players be numbered both front and rear. This is for the convenience of officials and is not made compulsory.

A change in Rule II, Section 1, makes it possible to grant time-out whenever the ball is dead, thus abolishing the exception "after the ball is iniposition for one or more free throws".

When a team has no coach or other person authorized to make substitutions, the referee will be required to obtain the approval of the captain for a substitution.

A note is to be inserted in the list of personal fouls directing specific attention to the fact that a player may be disqualified for fouling an opponent who is in the act of shooting, if the offender is exceptionally rough and makes no attempt to block the ball.

The note under Rule 1, Section 4, recommending that space be marked on the free throw lanes is to be made a part of Section 4, these spaces thus becoming mandatory.

In connection with the note to Rule 7, Section 3, the back-court will be the half of the court remote from a player's own basket.

The recommendation contained in the note to Rule 9, Section 3, with reference to overtime periods for boys of high school age or younger, becomes a part of Section 3 and the provisions thereof compulsory. If the score is still tied at the end of the second overtime period, the team which first scores two points in the third overtime period shall be the winner unless the teams have agreed to settle it otherwise during the intermission following the first overtime period.

On any free throw, if the free thrower consumes more than ten seconds, or crosses the line too soon, or if one of his team mates enters the lane too soon, or if the players of both teams break this rule, the ball is to be tossed up at the center instead of at the nearer free throw line. This applies to all free throws, with the obvious exception of multiple throws in which it would apply only to the last throw. An insertion under this same section will forbid players to touch the ball on a free throw until it has touched the basket or backboard. If the ball does not enter the basket, or touch the ring or backboard, it is to be awarded to an opponent of the free thrower out of bounds on the side. This applies only to free throws following which the ball would ordinarily be in play if the free throw is missed. On free throws resulting from double fouls or technical fouls players are not to line up on the free throw lanes.